

00684.519507

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Unassigned
Hiroshige INOUE)	
	:	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/587,146)	
	:	Confirmation No.: 4972
Filed: July 24, 2006)	
	:	
For: TONER SUPPLY CONTAINER)	
AND IMAGE FORMING	:	
APPARATUS, FOR DETECTING)	
THE AMOUNT OF REMAINING	:	
TONER)	September 20, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the cited Japanese patent documents and English-language Abstracts of the Japanese patent documents also are enclosed. A concise explanation of relevance of the Japanese patent documents can be found in the attached English-language Abstracts.

REMARKS

According to a commercial database, U.S. Patent No. 6,256,459 is in the patent family of Japanese Patent Document No. 2000-231254, and U.S. Patent No. 5,805,952 is in the patent family of Japanese Patent Document No. 10-221943.

STATEMENT/PETITION/FEE

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), since a first Official Action has not been received in the above-identified application, neither a Statement, Petition, nor payment of a fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be deemed necessary in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the cited information and that an annotated copy of the citation form be returned indicating such consideration.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the New York address shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) September 20, 2006			ATTY DOCKET NO. 00684.519507		APPLICATION NO. 10/587,146		
			APPLICANT Hiroshige INOUE				
			FILING DATE July 24, 2006		GROUP Unassigned		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,256,459	07/03/2001	Hasegawa et al.	399	27	
		5,805,952	09/08/1998	Buch et al.	399	27	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		2000-231254	08/22/2000	Japan			Abstract
		2000-231253	08/22/2000	Japan			Abstract
		2000-172059	06/23/2000	Japan			Abstract
		2000-172058	06/23/2000	Japan			Abstract
		11-202609	07/30/1999	Japan			Abstract
		10-221943	08/21/1998	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.